for preparation of project report by reputed consultancy firm with experience in preparation of reports for refractory industry. As no viable project report has been prepared the same was not submitted for approval of Board of BSCL. As recommended by market survey report, MECON was commissioned in March, 1989 by holding Company Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Ltd. for an in-depth study of all the refractory units of BSCL except Salem.

**Madras Atomic Plant**

3657. SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity of power generation of Madras Atomic Plant;

(b) the present capacity utilisation:

(c) the details of the power generated in this plant during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91, year-wise;

(d) the cost per unit of power generated from this plant; and

(e) the steps taken to remove the hazard of air pollution in and around this plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The installed capacity of Madras Atomic Power Station is 2× 235 MWe. In May, 1991, Atomic Energy Commission has approved in principle rerating the capacity of the station to 2×220 MWe.

(b) Presently both the units are being operated at a restricted power level of upto 175 MWe each due to implementation of modifications to tide over the problem of failure of moderator inlet manifolds. Efforts are in progress to restore the units to the regular power level operation.

(c) The yearwise gross generation of electricity in Million Kilowatt hours (MUs) from the Madras station from the year 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91, are as follows:

| *Financial Year* | *Generation in MUs* |
|---|---|
| 1988-89 . . . | 2048 |
| 1989-90 . . . | 1349 |
| 1990-91 . . . | 2074 |

(d) The tariff for sale of electricity generated from the units is 69.53 paise/KWh as of June, 1991.

(e) The levels of airborne and gaseous radioactivity in and around the nuclear power station are well within the limits prescribed by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board. The releases of radioactivity are routed to the atmosphere through a tall stack. Before the entry into the stack the air is passed through high efficiency particulate air filters in order to remove particulate activity. No conventional pollutant is emitted by Nuclear Power Stations.

Radiation levels around nuclear power stations are regularly monitored. Samples of air, water, food sediment etc. are collected periodically to ensure that the safety measures taken in the reactors are effective. The releases of radioactivity into the atmosphere right from the commissioning of the reactor are below the limit prescribed by the Regulatory Board.

[*Translation*]

**TV Facilities to Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj and Sundergarh**

3658. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide facilities of Doordarshan transmission to all villages of

Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj and Sundergarh districts of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) At present, low power (100W) TV transmitters are in operation, one each at Anandpur, Joda and Keonjhargarh in Keonjhar district; Baripada in Mayurbhanj district and Rourkela & Sundergarh in Sundergarh district of Orissa. Besides, parts of Keonjhar district are also covered by the high power (10 KW) TV transmitter functioning at Cuttack. It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to extend TV service to the remaining uncovered parts of these districts, as expeditiously as possible, depending upon the availability of adequate financial resources for the purpose.

**Backward States**

3659. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States declared as backward States by the Union Government; and

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government for the overall development of these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No State has been declared backward as such by the Union Government.

(b) Allocation of Central assistance for Plans to a State is influenced among other by its resource base and by the extent to which its per capita income is below the national average. Moreover, distribution of funds under anti-poverty programmes like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is based on incidence of rural poverty, which can be construed to be an indication of backwardness. Thus less developed States get adequate attention in distribution of funds for development.

[*English*]

**Expansion of F.A.C.T.**

3660. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any expansion schemes are proposed to be taken up for the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what are the proposed expansions in other fertilizer companies like Madras Fertilizers and others in public sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following expansion schemes have been proposed by FACT:—

(i) Setting up of a new Ammonia Plant at Udyogamandal at a cost of Rs. 525.02 crores including a foreign exchange component of Rs. 135.60 crores.

(ii) Expansion of Cochin Phase-II Plant to increase production capacity of the plant at a cost of Rs. 117 crores including foreign exchange component of Rs. 19 crores.

Besides the above 2 projects, retrofit of Cochin Division Phase-I project is being implemented by FACT at a cost of Rs. 19 crores.